

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

October 2, 2023

Minutes taken by Nikeda Webb

Call to order at 10 AM

Attendance

Voting Members Present: Kyla Waltermire, Mike Driskell, Anna Karwowska, John Kokoris, Jamie Paicely, Tana Petrov,, Aaron Skog, Tom Stagg, and Nikeda Webb.

Voting Members Absent: Laura Long, Donna Schaal,

Ex Officio Members Present: Derek Blaida, Amy Byers, Anne Craig, Gail Graziani, Lou Ann Jacobs, Heather Jagman, Greg McCormick, Amanda McKay, Cyndi Robinson

Ex Officio Members Absent: Monica Harris, Ryan Johnson, Elizabeth Lynch, Ellen Popit

Guests included: Monica Harris (RAILS), Lou Ann Jacobs (AISLE), Ryan Johnson (ILA President), Ellen Popit (ILHS), and Cyndi Robinson (ILA Director)

Approval of Agenda: A new item was added to the agenda regarding the working group on library bomb threats.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August 28, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously.

Advocacy update (Gail and Amanda): Dates for legislator meetups were shared, with a new schedule (late Nov./early Dec.) Also touched upon subcommittees, the [Ready Set Advocate](#) toolkit/website, and ILA Reporter articles.

AISLE update (Lou Ann): Reported from the conference, which had slightly lower numbers, but good downstate representation and great ideas.

CARLI update (Anne): Priority right now is a [course materials survey](#) for Illinois students in higher ed, to collect data on course material costs and help develop open educational resources that are free to students.

ILA Executive Board update (Heather, Amy): Meeting in Champaign with the [Illinois Fire Services Institute Library](#). Discussed upcoming conference, paraprofessional statement of support, and IREAD designer who is an Illinois Library Luminary. Strategic plan to come soon.

Illinois State Library update (Greg): Mentioned administrative rules update on book banning legislation (see below).

Intellectual Freedom update (Cyndi): Cyndia mentioned that the Intellectual Freedom Committee “took over” ILA’s social media accounts for Banned Books Week.

Federal update (Cyndi): The federal government averted a shutdown!

State update (Derek, Cyndi) (kind of combined with/led into old business): Veto session to start soon; agenda not really known. At this point in the cycle, only things that need to be dealt with now (vs. waiting until spring) will be dealt with now.

Old business:

- Greg discussed policy vs. procedure with regard to school library book banning; Derek said a notice process was underway and a common sense rule would likely sail through the legislature.
- A hearing for [SB 1126](#) (Illinois Age Appropriate Design Code Act) was granted to the legislator who requested it,

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

but it would likely be tabled after that.

Legislative proposals:

- *Approved:*
 - [Competitive Bidding Raised](#): Derek asked who else also wants this (MWRD, e.g.,; do other districts?). There is safety in numbers and it helps when people across the state are on the same page.
 - [Acquisition of Treasurer Bonds for Libraries in Illinois](#): In legislative reference period. Percentage threshold would change, saving over \$300k a year.
 - [Equitable Access to Electronic Literacy Materials Act](#): On seventh draft, should be sent to Springfield this week. Ryan sent a model draft bill as a proposal, but this is then tweaked for each state.
- *Outstanding:*
 - [Amend the Local Records Act to Streamline Disposal of Records](#): Derek mentioned that supporters might not want to be seen as being against transparency. We're off of square one; our goal would be to file something in April or May.
 - [General fund flexibility](#): Donna says she's worked with Ryan, but needs more information, more collaboration, maybe a subcommittee. Derek says he'll try to meet with House Revenue and Finance Committee Chair, who values common sense ideas, to see if it's worth our effort.

New Business:

- *Response to bomb threats and other challenges*: ILA has contracted with Megan Cusick, formerly of the ALA Advocacy Office, to work on More Than A Building, inspired by [Bigger Than A Building](#). The focus will be on library leaders, workers, volunteers, and patrons. PPC can appoint a member to this working group.
- Additional security measures will be taken at ILA Annual Conference; the issue will be addressed at the membership meeting.

Adjournment (Kyla)

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.